

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces and supersedes all prior listings.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-23 (Canceled)

Claim 24 (Currently amended): A wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 μm , comprising:

- (a) 10% to 75% by weight, based on the dispersion, of a wax phase with a melting point above 25°C to about 50°C, which comprises at least one oil or wax component selected from the group consisting of dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids, hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof and at least one emulsifier; and
- (b) a water phase.

Claim 25 (Cancelled)

Claim 26 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the at least one emulsifier of the wax phase is selected from the group of nonionic emulsifiers.

Claim 27 (Cancelled)

Claim 28 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the average particle size is 5 to 50 μm .

Claim 29 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase comprises less than 3% by weight of water, based on the total weight of the wax phase.

Claim 30 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase contains at least one further component selected from the group consisting of an other wax-like lipid component and an other oil component.

Claim 31 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 30, wherein the other wax-like lipid component is selected from the group consisting of C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty alcohols, mono-, di- or triesters of glycerol, C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty acids, mono- or diesters of ethylene glycol, C₁₂₋₂₄ fatty acids, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 32 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, further comprising at least one polymer.

Claim 33 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 32, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 34 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, wherein the wax phase further comprises at least one active component.

Claim 35 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 24, further comprising at least one humectant.

Claim 36 (Currently amended): A wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 µm comprising:

(a) ~~1 to 50%~~ 10-25% by weight, based on the wax dispersion, of a wax phase with a melting point ~~above 25°C~~ in the range of about 35 to about 50°C which comprises, ~~based on the overall weight of the wax dispersion~~,

- (1) 0.1 to 30% by weight, based on the wax phase, of at least one oil or wax component selected from C₁₄₋₃₀ dialkyl(ene) ethers, C₁₄₋₃₀ dialkyl(ene) carbonates, C₉₋₃₄ dicarboxylic acids or C₁₂₋₃₀ hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof,
 - (2) 0.1 to 10% by weight, based on the wax phase, of at least one other oil,
 - (3) 0.1 to 10% by weight, based on the wax phase, of at least one nonionic emulsifier, and
 - (4) 0.1 to 40% by weight, based on the wax phase, of at least one other wax-like lipid component; and
- (b) ~~50 to 99%~~ 75-90% by weight, based on the wax dispersion, of a water phase.

Claim 37 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 36, further comprising 0.01 to 5.0% by weight of at least one polymer, based on the overall wax dispersion.

Claim 38 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 37, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 39 (Cancelled)

Claim 40 (Currently amended): [[A]] The wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the average particle size is 5 to 50 µm.

Claim 41 (Currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase comprises less than 3% by weight, based on the weight of the wax phase, of water.

Claim 42 (Currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The wax dispersion according to claim 36, wherein the wax phase further comprises at least one active component.

Claim 43 (Currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The wax dispersion according to claim 36, further comprising at least one humectant.

Claim 44 (Currently amended): A process for the production of a wax dispersion with an average particle size of 0.5 to 100 μm , and having (a) 10-75% by weight, based on the wax dispersion, of a wax phase with a melting point ~~above 25°C~~ in the range of about 35 to about 50°C, which comprises at least one oil or wax component selected from the group consisting of dialkyl(ene) ethers, dialkyl(ene) carbonates, dicarboxylic acids, hydroxyfatty alcohols, and mixtures thereof and at least one emulsifier; and (b) a water phase, said process comprising:

- (1) providing a preliminary emulsion of the wax phase containing a water phase and having a temperature above the melting range of the waxes, and
- (2) introducing ~~the~~ said preliminary emulsion, under pressure, into a polymer-containing water phase which has a temperature in the range of about 1 to 30°C.

Claim 45 (Currently amended): ~~[[A]]~~ The process according to claim 44, further comprising homogenizing the preliminary emulsion at least once before introducing it into the water phase of step (2).

Claim 46 (Currently amended): [[A]] The process according to claim 44, further comprising cooling the preliminary emulsion in a heat exchanger before introducing it into the water phase of step (2).

Claim 47 (Currently amended): [[A]] The process according to claim 44, wherein the preliminary emulsion also contains a polymer.

Claim 48 (Currently amended): [[A]] The process according to claim 47, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of polyacrylates, polysaccharides, polyacrylamides, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 49 (Currently amended): [[A]] The process according to claim 44, wherein the preliminary emulsion is introduced into the water phase of step (B) by spraying under pressure through a nozzle.

Claim 50 (Cancelled)

Claim 51 (Previously presented): A body care preparation comprising a wax dispersion according to claim 24.

Claim 52 (Previously presented): A body care preparation comprising a wax dispersion according to claim 36.